Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6601

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUXEMBOURG 0924

FOR EUR/NE

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SHUM, LUS

SUBJECT: 1978 COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES

REF: (A) STATE 218958, (B) STATE 207310, (C) STATE 22974

(D) LUXEMBOURG 0744

- 1. THE EMBASSY HAS REVIEWED THE SUBMISSION ON LUXEM-BOURG'S HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES REFTEL C AND FINDS IT STILL CURRENT. THE GOL'S RECORD IN THIS AREA IS ADMIRABLE. FOR A REPORT ON A HUMAN RIGHTS DEMONSTRATION SEE REFTEL D.
- 2. SINCE THE ABOVE REPORT, THE GOL HAS STRESSED THE CREATION OF JOBS THROUGH NEW INVESTMENT IN LUXEMBOURG. THIS EFFORT IS TO COMBAT THE SMALL, BUT NEW TO LUXEMBOURG, UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM. ON AUGUST 28 THE GOL ANNOUNCED A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS, A DROP FROM 530 AT END OF MAY TO 360 IN MIDAUGUST; BUT PEOPLE, MOSTLY YOUTH, LOOKING FOR JOBS HAVE INCREASED DURING THE SAME PERIOD TO 1133 FROM 1046.
- 3. THE NEW GOL 1979 BUDGET PRESENTED TO THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES ON SEPT. 6 CONTINUES THE EFFORTS OF THE COALITION TO IMPROVE SOCIAL CONDITIONS BY CREATING MORE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

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JOBS, INCREASING FAMILY ASSISTANCE AND AIDING THE HANDICAPPED. THUS THE TOTAL BUDGET EXPENDITURE IS UP 6.1. PERCENT TO 42,100,300,000 LUX FRANCES. RECEIPTS ARE UP TOO TO 41,212,500,000 LUX FRANCES FOR AN EXPECTED DEFICIT OF 887,800,000 LUX FRANCS. THIS BUDGET IS EXPECTED TO ASSURE LUXEMBOURG'S GNP WILL INCREASE BY 3 PERCENT IN 1979 AND NOT TO PUSH INFLATION OVER

4.5 PERCENT.

4. THE RESPONSES TO THE SPECIFIC HEADINGS REQUESTED REMAIN THE SAME AS IN REFTEL. HIGGINSON

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